

Message Text

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ACTION NRC-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 ACDA-12 CIAE-00
INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 SOE-02
DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 EA-10 /123 W
-----072476 212222Z /73

R 211553Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4374

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 04517

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, UK
SUB: ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF TRANSIT SHIPMENTS OF
STRATEGIC QUANTITIES OF SPECIAL NUCLEAR MATERIALS
(SSNM)

REF: STATE 3817

1. REFERENCE REQUEST GIVEN TO MICHAEL WILMSHURST ON
JANUARY 10. AFTER SEVERAL PROMPTINGS BY SCICOUNS,
FOLLOWING REPLY (QUOTED IN FULL) RECEIVED MARCH 21.

2. QUOTE PHYSICAL PROTECTION: MATERIAL PASSING
THROUGH THE UNITED STATES.
WHEN YOU CALLED ON MICHAEL WILMSHURST ON 10 JANUARY
YOU LEFT WITH HIM A COPY OF A TELEGRAM FROM WASHINGTON
ABOUT THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION'S (NRC)
PROPOSED NEW REGULATIONS FOR ADVANCED NOTIFICATION OF
TRANSIT SHIPMENTS OF STRATEGIC QUANTITIES OF SPECIAL
NUCLEAR MATERIALS (SNM). MICHAEL UNDERTOOK TO LET
YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS WE MAY HAVE ON THE PROPOSED NEW
REGULATIONS. BNFL ARE CONTENT TO COMPLY WITH NRC'S
REQUIREMENTS IN RESPECT OF PHYSICAL PROTECTION,
PROVIDED THAT THE MEASURES THEMSELVES DO NOT FALL SHORT
OF UK STANDARDS.

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PARAGRAPH 3 OF THE TELEGRAM SUGGESTS THAT SHIPPERS
COULD ENGAGE AN AGENT IN THE US IF STOPOVERS ARE LIKELY
TO BE FREQUENT. AT PRESENT BRITISH NUCLEAR FUELS
LTD NOTIFY THE NRC OF ANY SHIPMENTS THROUGH OUR
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, UNLESS DIRECT CONTACTS WITH NRC
ARE NO LONGER POSSIBLE WE WOULD PREFER TO CONTINUE

WITH OUR PRESENT ARRANGEMENTS.

PARAGRAPH 5 OF THE TELEGRAM ASKS FOR ANY READILY AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON PAST AND PROPOSED FUTURE TRANSITS. BNFL MADE A NUMBER OF SHIPMENTS TO JAPAN VIA THE UNITED STATES, AS WELL AS TO THE UNITED STATES, BETWEEN JANUARY 1973 AND MARCH 1974. THE SHIPMENTS WERE CARRIED OUT BY PAN AM VIA NEW YORK, SAN FRANCISCO, LOS ANGELES AND ANCHORAGE. BNFL ARE PLANNING TO RESUME MOVEMENTS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES NEXT SUMMER. THEY WILL PROBABLY BE MADE BY SPECIALLY DEDICATED CHARTER AIRCRAFT. THE COMPANY INTEND TO KEEP THE NUMBER OF STOPS TO A MINIMUM. THE DURATION OF STOPOVERS WOULD BE ONLY FOR AS LONG AS WAS NEEDED TO REFUEL THE AIRCRAFT AND CHANGE CREWS.

I HOPE YOU WILL FIND THIS HELPFUL.

SIGNED: M. BURKE FOR M.J. LOWES, JOINT NUCLEAR UNIT.

BREWSTER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISSIONABLE MATERIALS TRANSFER, NUCLEAR FUELS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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Litigation History:
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